

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 8-18, as follows:

~~An earlier-developed~~ A prior art absorbent article is formed by covering an absorbent body, comprising a pulp and super absorbent polymers, with a liquid permeable upper sheet, ~~and wherein~~ the content of the super absorbent polymers in relation to the pulp does not exceed 50% by weight (for example, refer to the Patent Document 1 described below). In the absorbent article having such structure, since enough strength of the absorbent body can be retained by tangles of fibers of the pulp, a top sheet and the absorbent body are adhered by a hot-melt adhesive, a polyvinyl alcohol, or a heat-welding fiber.

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, line 20 to page 2, line 2, as follows:

The above described absorbent article ~~has a trend to be~~ is typically made thin, and in particular because there is a demand to make the absorbent article itself thin. However, when the absorbent article ~~itself~~ becomes thin, the amount of super absorbent polymers in the absorbent article necessarily decreases, thereby causing a problem ~~to decrease~~ in that its absorption capacity decreases.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, line 25, to page 3, line 13, as follows:

FIG. 9 is a development plan view of a taped disposable diaper 100 as an example of an earlier developed absorbent article as seen from the front surface side, and FIG. 10 is a sectional view along the line [[A-A]] 10-10 in FIG. 9. As shown in ~~the figures~~ FIGS. 9 and 10, the disposable diaper 100 is one in which a disposable diaper body itself formed by an absorbent body 103 interposed between a permeable upper sheet 101 and an impermeable lower sheet 102 is formed into an approximately sandglass shape. The disposable diaper 100 is provided with fastening tapes 104 and an elastic and flexible member 105B at the back portion side for holding the disposable diaper body to fit a body, and similarly provided with an elastic and flexible member 105F at the abdominal portion side, and elastic and flexible members 105S at the leg opening portion.

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 15-23, as follows:

Moreover, preferably, ~~in the above described absorbent article,~~ the super absorbent polymer further meets the

following ~~1) to 3)~~ absorption capability conditions:

- 1) an absorption speed of 30 cc of artificial urine is 50 seconds or less,
- 2) an absorbed amount of artificial urine under a pressure of 20 g/cm² is 28 cc/g or more, and
- 3) a moisture absorbing blocking rate is 50% or less.

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 3-5, as follows:

FIG. 5 is a sectional view along the line ~~[[B-B]]~~ 5-5 in FIG. 4;

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 21-22, as follows:

FIG. 10 is a sectional view along the line ~~[[A-A]]~~ 10-10 in FIG. 9.

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, line 22 to page 11, line 11, as follows:

The fibers forming the non-woven fabric used in the above top sheet 11 is preferably SMS. The thickness of the fiber, the wet strength, and the basis weight of the

non-woven fabric are not more than 2.0 denier, not less than 300 g/mm, and not less than 10 g/m², respectively. When the thickness of the non-woven ~~fabric~~ fiber is more than 2.0 denier, the non-woven fabric itself becomes non-dense, which would cause the yield of the super absorbent polymers to decline. When the wet strength of the non-woven fabric is less than 300 g/25 mm, sufficient strength cannot be obtained with the content of the super absorbent polymers not less than 55% by weight, which may result in causing twist or crack of the absorbent body 10 in use. When the basis weight of the non-woven fabric is less than 10 g/m², the non-woven fabric itself becomes non-dense, which would cause the yield of the super absorbent polymers to decline.

Please amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 12-22, as follows:

FIG. 4 is a development plan view of a disposable diaper 20 according to the second embodiment of the present invention when seen from the front surface side, FIG. 5 is a sectional view along the line ~~[[B-B]]~~ 5-5 in FIG. 4, and FIG. 6 is an expanded view of a main portion in FIG. 5. As shown in ~~figures~~ FIGS. 4-6, the disposable diaper 20 has a structure substantially the same except the internal

structure of an absorbent body 23 compared to the earlier developed disposable diaper 100. Thus, the components corresponding to those of the disposable diaper 100 have corresponding numbers and characters of twenties.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 10-17, as follows:

A material which is soft and has a pleasant texture with liquid permeability such as a woven fabric, a non-woven fabric, a porous sheet or the like is used for the liquid permeable upper sheet 21. A material which is soft and has a pleasant texture with liquid impermeability such as a polyethylene or a waterproof-~~film~~, film, a composite thereof, or a composite of a film, a woven fabric and the like is used for the liquid impermeable lower sheet 22.

Please amend the paragraph at page 14, lines 9-20, as follows:

The absorbent body 23 is designed such that, in the three layers, the whole content of the super absorbent polymers 28 is 55% by weight, the whole content of the pulp fibers 27 is 45% by weight, and further the super absorbent

polymers 28 meet the following ~~1) to 3)~~ absorption capability conditions:

- 1) an absorption speed of 30 cc of artificial urine is 50 seconds or less,
- 2) an absorbed amount of artificial urine under a pressure of 20 g/cm² is 28 cc/g or more, and
- 3) a moisture absorbing blocking rate (gel strength) is 50% or less.

Please add the following new paragraph at page 14, line 21 before the paragraph beginning with "The above absorption capability..." and ending with "...blocking rate, respectively."

An absorbent body 23 having these properties may be used in the embodiment shown in FIGS. 5, 6, 8A and 8B wherein the absorbent body 23 includes a layer L1 of pulp fibers 27 and a mixed layer L2 of pulp fibers 27 and super absorbent polymers 28.

And please amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 2-15, as follows:

First, regarding the absorption speed of the super absorbent polymers 28, as shown in FIG. 7A, 1g of the super

absorbent polymers 28 are dispersed in the ~~Schale~~ dish 30 having a diameter of 90 mm, putting 30 cc of artificial urine therein (A1), and the time (second) for the artificial urine to be absorbed in the super absorbent polymers 28 is measured. As a result of ~~eager~~-experiments ~~by the inventor and the like~~, it has been found ~~out~~ that the absorption speed is preferably not more than 50 seconds in terms of absorption capability of the super absorbent polymers 28. When the absorption speed exceeds 50 seconds, the hydrophilic property of the super absorbent polymers 28 becomes high, ~~therefore~~, thereby exposing the wet back of urine and easily ~~getting~~ enabling development of a diaper rash.